(d) what are the names of those States where the construction work for widening the National Highways is going on?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total length of National Highways in the country at present is 52010 Kms.

(c) During 1999-2000, works of widening to two lane in a length of 481 Kms. widening to four lane in a length of 74 Kms. and strengthening weak two lane section in a length of 818 Kms. have been completed.

(d) The works of widening of National Highways are in progress in all the States.

Benefits of Traffic Aid posts on NHS

3211. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh is getting the benefit of setting up of traffic aid post because it being in the middle of the country, and a number of National Highways passing through the State;

(b) if so, the benefit given by the Central Government, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the States to which the benefit of setting up a traffic aid post has been given together with the details of the benefit given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Traffic Aid post in Madhya Pradesh has not been sanctioned so far from NH funds.

(c) No such posts have been set up from NH funds.

National Highways in Orissa

3212. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of

SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the answer to the Unstarred Question 1042 given in the Rajya Sabha on 1st August, 2000 and state:

(a) the number of roads and total Kilometer of roads that has been taken by Government as national highways in Orissa state; and

(b) the total amount required to complete these roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) There are eleven number of National Highways in Orissa State with a total length of about 2863 Kms.

(b) To improve these roads to NH Standards, about Rs. 5500 Crores will be required.

FIPB approved road projects

3213. DR. MAHESH CHANDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects approved by FIPB for construction of roads in the years 1997—99;

(b) the details of such projects in terms of Kilometers; and

(c) what is the status of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Constitutionally this Ministry is responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways only. No proposal has been approved by FIPB for construction project on any of the National Highways in the years 1997—99.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Road accidents in Metro Cities

3214. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the road accidents have been on the rise particularly in the Metropolitan Cities;

(b) if so, the State wise figures of accidents during the last three years alongwith the figures for Metropolitan Cities; and